

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

1. Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 32 of the specification and ending on page 7, line 13 as follows:

Figure 3 illustrates a top view of a lead body having the insulating material removed to form welding region 20 by exposing conductor 20. As shown in Figure 3, the welding region 20 is preferably formed obliquely relative to the lead body. Welding region 20 provides access to conductor(s) 22 for electrically connecting the band electrode to conductor 22. Welding region 22 is typically formed by removing the insulating material from lead body 10. The insulating material is removed to expose small sections of the individual conductors 22 without breaching the inner lumen, if present. Typically, an excimer laser is used to remove the insulating material. When the insulator is removed by laser, welding region 20 may be in the form of a groove in the insulator. Although, welding regions may take a variety of forms and orientations that expose a sufficient surface area of conductor 22 to form an electrical connection with a conductive pad, discussed below. When in the form of a groove, welding region 20 is typically formed such that the groove runs parallel to conductor 22. Regardless of the form of welding region 20, enough insulating material is removed to expose sufficient surface area of conductor 22 for securing a conductive pad or elongated conductive element to the conductor.